



ST. MARY OF THE CROSS MACKILLOP PARISH UPPER BLUE MOUNTAINS

PARISH CONTACTS

Fr. John McSweeney (Parish Priest)
Fr. Abraham Kunnatholy Varu CMI
(Assistant Priest)
Parish Office: 158 Katoomba Street,
Katoomba 2780.
Postal Address: PO Box 526, Katoomba
NSW 2780.
Phone: (02) 4782 2804.
Hours: 10am-3pm Tuesday-Friday.
After Hours Emergency Number:
0490814284 . *Calls only; no texts please.*
For all Office matters, call 02 4782 2804.

Parish email address:
bluemountains@parracatholic.org
Parish website:
bluemountainscatholic.org.au
Parish Facebook: [facebook.com/bluemountainscatholic](https://www.facebook.com/bluemountainscatholic)

Weddings: Please call the Office for details.
Baptisms: upon request.

PARISH SCHOOL: St Canice's Catholic
Primary School, Katoomba.
Principal: Ms. Miriam Meaney.
Phone: (02) 4780 6800.
Email: stcanices@parra.catholic.edu.au

USUAL SUNDAY MASS TIMES

Leura 5pm (Saturday)
Wentworth Falls 8am
Blackheath 9.15 am
Katoomba 10.30am
Leura 5pm

USUAL WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

MON: 9:30am Katoomba
TUE: 5:15pm Leura
WED: 9:30am W-Falls
THU: 5:15pm Leura
FRI: 12pm Katoomba
FRI: 4.00pm Megalong (3rd Fri of the month)
SAT: 9am Katoomba
SAT: 6.00pm Mt Victoria

USUAL CONFESSION TIMES

TUE 4:45-5:05pm Leura
FRI: After 12 pm Mass Katoomba
SAT: 9:30-9:50 Katoomba
SAT: 4:30-4:45pm Leura
NOTE: Confessions are always available
upon request.

KATOOMBA ADORATION CHAPEL

10:00am Monday - 6pm Friday. The chapel
is at the back of St. Canice's church. Entry
is from the outside.

"One cannot know the Lord without the
habit of adoring in silence (Pope Francis)."

3rd Sunday of Easter

YEAR A - 23 April 2023

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

The story of the Road to Emmaus (which we hear on this 3rd Sunday of Easter) is one that speaks to us of our own journey in this world as we walk the roads of life towards the Loving Father of all.

Like with Cleopas and his companion (perhaps Mary, the wife of Cleopas?) we are enabled by the Risen Lord to understand the revelation contained in the Scriptures and recognize him in the breaking of the bread.

Every time we come to mass we are repeating the encounter with Jesus on the road (as we listen to the Word of God proclaimed in the Readings and reflected upon in the Homily); we are also participating in the meal they shared with the Lord, experiencing his Presence in the Eucharist, rejoicing in this great Gift of the Bread of Life!

As we participate in our Mass today, let's be ready to see and hear, touch and know the presence of the Risen Christ in all aspects of our lives.

Indeed, may our hearts burn within us as we listen to His Word; and may we recognize him always in the Breaking of the Bread!

1. We welcome Fr Peter Lamont to both parishes in the Upper Mountains; indeed, to our 6 Church Communities.
2. ANZAC Day Mass will be celebrated at St Canice's, Katoomba, at 9:30am on Tuesday 25/4. All welcome. There will be no Mass in the afternoon at Leura.
3. There will be a PPC Meeting for Upper Blue Mountains Parish next Saturday 29/4 commencing at 10am.
4. Next Saturday afternoon (29/4) there will be a presentation in St Canice's Church from 2pm, presented by some of our pilgrims who went to the Holy Land in January. All are welcome to attend and participate in a time of reflection and prayer.

God Bless you all!

Fr John



Please mute your mobile at Mass.
Thank-you for your courtesy.



WHAT'S ON IN THE UPPER MOUNTAINS THIS WEEK

SUNDAY 23 April

MONDAY 24 April
Mass 9:30am Katoomba

TUESDAY 25 April
ANZAC DAY

WEDNESDAY 26 April
Funeral Mass 1.00pm Katoomba

THURSDAY 27 April
Mass 5:15pm Leura

FRIDAY 28 April
Mass 12pm Katoomba

SATURDAY 29 April
Mass 9:00am Katoomba

SUNDAY 30 April
4th Sunday of Easter

ANZAC DAY MASS
TUESDAY 25 APRIL
9.30am Katoomba

B.POINT

We have introduced a new and easy way of contribution for 2nd collection and 1st collection.

Please follow this link:

if choosing 2nd collection please note name and envelop No.

<https://www.bpoint.com.au/pay/MaryMackillopParishUpperBlueMountains>



FINANCES: If you would like to contribute to the 2nd Collection for the parish: Bank Transfer: BSB 067 950 Account 000 00594 Name: Mary MacKillop Parish Reference: Surname and envelope number or Parish Donation (with or without surname if preferred).

If parishioners would like to contribute to the First Collection for the clergy of the diocese: BSB 067 950 Account No 00004265 Account Name Diocesan Clergy Reference either the Parish Name or the parish code 6038

PLEASE NOTE: During the days of lockdown our parish finances suffered. If you could consider switching from Envelopes to Direct/credit card Debit, we would be grateful. There is also the opportunity to use B.point for our parish, and there you can distinguish between 1st collection (for our priests) and 2nd collection (for our parish). Thank you so much for your continuing support in these difficult times.



SUNDAY MASS: Live streaming of the Sunday 10.30am masses at St Canice's will continue. The live feed will be via our parish YouTube page as per usual.
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCHtj55rsvGDQqCDN7mldNQ>.



HOSPITAL/HOME VISITS: if you or your love ones are sick and would like a visit please contact the parish office or Barbara Davidson 0417 490 103

"The purpose of a holy hour is to encourage a deep personal encounter with Christ. The holy and glorious God is constantly inviting us to come to Him, to converse with Him, to ask for such things as we need and to experience what a blessing there is in fellowship with Him (Ven. Fulton Sheen)."



PERPETUAL ADORATION CHAPEL: If you are a parishioner (or visitor) who would like a rostered holy hour each week or to be on the temporary fill in list, please contact Catherine on 0420 337 033 to register your details.

SAVE THE DATE: Saturday 20 May. We are all invited to attend a special gathering in **Springwood** for the whole Blue Mountains Deanery (Emu Plains to Blackheath Parishes) on Saturday 20 May.

This gathering is being held in preparation for a **local Synod** to be held in the diocese of Parramatta. This is an initial opportunity for us all to have a voice. **Bishop Vincent**, will attend the gathering, and he is keen to hear from **everyone**.

Please consider attending and sharing your stories, reflections and experiences of your community at St. Mary of the Cross MacKillop Parish, Upper Blue Mountains. More details to come.

WHAT IS A DIOCESAN SYNOD?: Zoom information nights are Thursday 27 April 6:30pm to 7:30pm or Friday 28 April 6pm to 7pm. Select a session and RSVP: synod2023@parracatholic.org



INVITATION TO REGISTER FOR CPR TRAINING

You are invited to register for this accredited CPR Course being offered by Surf Life Saving NSW as part of a project being offered by The University of Sydney, Westmead Applied Research Centre. The course runs for 2.5 hours at St Thomas Aquinas Springwood on Saturday 13th May beginning at 10amTo register: <https://redcap.sydney.edu.au/surveys/?s=CA84KKR7PLE83WNE>

FAITH IN MARRIAGE SEMINAR: 19 MAY

The annual Diocesan Faith in Marriage Seminar returns in 2023 with Chris Padgett, American Speaker, Musician, Author and Professor of Theology. This free event will be held on Friday 19 May at 7:30pm at St Paul the Apostle Church, 40 Buckleys Road, Winston Hills. Please register at marriage@parracatholic.org

St Canice Parish in partnership with the School are running Children's liturgy!

When: During 10:30 Sunday mass, exit after the opening pray, return by the offertory procession

Operating: Throughout the school term.

How: With material approved by the diocese, including readings, the gospel reading in cartoons, reflections and colourful activities.

Parents: Are welcome to attend.

Organiser: Jeremy Brown

We need you! Children's liturgy must have two volunteers per Sunday. If you wish to cater for young families and enjoy working with Children please call Jeremy. on 0428 174 999

Easter Raffle

PARISH FUNDRAISING: Easter Hamper Raffle Results Winners of the raffle: Eva, Patricia Nolan, Chrys, Dawe family, Anne, Julie Nolan, Miriam, Rosie, and Stacia. Many thanks to those who gave so generously to the hamper contributions and to the extraordinary raffle Team organisers . Amount raised \$1,011. It will go towards the maintenance of the church.

RECENTLY DECEASED : LLOYD STOERMER, FRED PATEMAN

MASS OFFERING INTENTIONS: DECEASED and ANNIVERSARIES: STEPHANNIE MURPHY, GRAHAM WILSON LAW ,JOAN NOLAN, EVELYN RUSSELL, and all the faithful departed especially those for whom you requested prayers and masses AND THE FORGOTTEN SOULS IN PURGATORY.

SICK LIST: Margaret Aboud, Patricia Walters, Michael Josephs, Libby Harrison, Gerard Wolthers, Judy Skipper, Millie Robinson, Maureen O'Halloran, Eleanor Russell, Andrzej Krawczyk, Eleanor Hagor, Mary Sullivan, Kathleen Hayes-Gilson, Evelyn Maw, Wanda Heffernan, Mary Roberts, Jacquelin Singh, Kath Paine, June Way, Robert Sullivan, Natale Assanti, Susan Keegel, Eugenio Natonton, Emiliana Santiago, Pat Coyne, Inga Morphett, Amanda Peters, Alison Michaels, Aimee De la Motte, Lorraine Russelle, Margaret Murphy, Pat Wolthers, Tricia Hogan, Shiela Page, Sr Jeanie Heiningar, Julie Wulss, Edwin Wulff, Maud Hunt



ST. CANICE'S SCHOOL NEWS:

Anzac Day:25th April.

The students from St Canice's will meet at 10.45 to commence marching at 11.00am. Our students will be leading the singing of the National Anthem at the RSL , and will lay a wreath. All are welcome to attend.

Biggest Morning Tea

The Combined Churches of Blackheath will be hosting a Biggest Morning Tea fundraiser on

Thursday May 25 commencing at 10:00am until 12:30pm in the RSL sub branch hall, Bundarra St, Blackheath.

Save the date on your calendar and join us for a delicious morning tea raising money for cancer research.

All Welcome!

3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER YEAR A

ENTRANCE Cry out with joy to God, all the earth.
O sing to the glory of his name.
O render him glorious praise.
alleluia.

FIRST READING (Acts 2:14,22-33)

On the day of Pentecost Peter stood up with the Eleven and addressed the crowd in a loud voice: 'People of Israel, listen to what I am going to say: Jesus the Nazarene was a man commended to you by God by the miracles and portents and signs that God worked through him when he was among you, as you all know. This man, who was put into your power by the deliberate intention and foreknowledge of God, you took and had crucified by people outside the Law. You killed him, but God raised him to life, freeing him from the pangs of Hades; for it was impossible for him to be held in its power since, as David says of him:

I saw the Lord before me always,
for with him at my right hand nothing can shake me.
So my heart was glad
and my tongue cried out with joy;
my body, too, will rest in the hope
that you will not abandon my soul to Hades
nor allow your holy one to experience corruption.
You have made known the way of life to me,
you will fill me with gladness through your presence.

'Brothers and sisters, no one can deny that the patriarch David himself is dead and buried: his tomb is still with us. But since he was a prophet, and knew that God had sworn him an oath to make one of his descendants succeed him on the throne, what he foresaw and spoke about was the resurrection of the Christ: he is the one who was not abandoned to Hades, and whose body did not experience corruption. God raised this man Jesus to life, and all of us are witnesses to that. Now raised to the heights by God's right hand, he has received from the Father the Holy Spirit, who was promised, and what you see and hear is the outpouring of that Spirit.'

RESPONSE Lord, you will show us the path of life.

SECOND READING (1 Peter 1:17-21)

If you are acknowledging as your Father one who has no favourites and judges everyone according to what he has done, you must be scrupulously careful as long as you are living away from your home. Remember, the ransom that was paid to free you from the useless way of life your ancestors handed down was not paid in anything corruptible, neither in silver nor gold, but in the precious blood of a lamb without spot or stain, namely Christ; who, though known since before the world was made, has been revealed only in our time, the end of the ages, for your sake. Through him you now have faith in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory for that very reason – so that you would have faith and hope in God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
Lord Jesus, make your word plain to us:
make our hearts burn with love when you speak.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL (Luke 24:13-25)

Two of the disciples of Jesus were on their way to a village called Emmaus, seven miles from Jerusalem, and they were talking together about all that had happened. Now as they talked this over, Jesus himself came up and walked by their side; but something prevented them from recognising him. He said to them, 'What matters are you discussing as you walk along?' They stopped short, their faces downcast.

Then one of them, called Cleopas, answered him, 'You must be the only person staying in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have been happening there these last few days.' 'What things?' he asked. 'All about Jesus of Nazareth' they answered 'who proved he was a great prophet by the things he said and did in the sight of God and of the whole people; and how our chief priests and our leaders handed him over to be sentenced to death, and had him crucified. Our own hope had been that he would be the one to set Israel free. And this is not all: two whole days have gone by since it all happened; and some women from our group have astounded us: they went to the tomb in the early morning, and when they did not find the body, they came back to tell us they had seen a vision of angels who declared he was alive. Some of our friends went to the tomb and found everything exactly as the women had reported, but of him they saw nothing.'

Then he said to them, 'You foolish men! So slow to believe the full message of the prophets! Was it not ordained that the Christ should suffer and so enter into his glory?' Then, starting with Moses and going through all the prophets, he explained to them the passages throughout the scriptures that were about himself.

When they drew near to the village to which they were going, he made as if to go on; but they pressed him to stay with them. 'It is nearly evening' they said 'and the day is almost over.' So he went in to stay with them. Now while he was with them at table, he took the bread and said the blessing; then he broke it and handed it to them. And their eyes were opened and they recognised him; but he had vanished from their sight. Then they said to each other, 'Did not our hearts burn within us as he talked to us on the road and explained the scriptures to us?' They set out that instant and returned to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven assembled together with their companions, who said to them, 'Yes, it is true. The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon.' Then they told their story of what had happened on the road and how they had recognised him at the breaking of bread.

COMMUNION

The disciples recognised the Lord Jesus, in the breaking of the bread, alleluia.

OUR THREE PARISH CHURCHES

ST CANICE'S KATOOMBA:
Katoomba St.
ST. BONAVENTURE'S LEURA:
Railway Pde & Hartley Esp.
ST. FRANCIS XAVIER'S
WENTWORTH FALLS: Day St.

SAINTS THIS WEEK

Mon 24 St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen, Martyr
Tue 25 ANZAC Day
Wed 26 St. Mark, Evangelist.
Thu 27 St. Louis Marie Grignon de Montfort
Fri 28 Saint Peter Chanel, Priest, Martyr
Sat 29 Saint Catherine of Siena, Virgin, Doctor
NEXT SUNDAY 30 4th SUNDAY OF EASTER

ROSARY AND OTHER DEVOTIONS

SAT and SUN: 4:10pm, Leura.
MON: 9:00am before Mass, Katoomba.
TUE: 4:30pm D-Mercy, Rosary, Exposition, Leura.
WED: before 9:00am Mass, Wentworth Falls.
THU: 4:30pm D-Mercy, Rosary, Leura
FRI: 11:30am before Mass, Katoomba.
FRI: 5.30pm Divine Mercy Hour, Leura.
SAT: 8:30am before Mass and after, Katoomba.

St Vincent de Paul Society
good works
Mary MacKillop Conference, Katoomba.
About Us!
This Sunday, April 23rd is the 210th Anniversary of the birth of Blessed Frederic Ozanam, and the 190th anniversary of the birth of the St Vincent de Paul Society. This year is a special year for our Conference also, as it marks the 90th anniversary of a Vincentian Conference in Katoomba.
The Society grew from Frederic's determination to satisfy his own conscience that he was doing what he could to bear witness to his Christian upbringing by assisting those less fortunate in his community.
The Ozanam story is not some story of ancient history that means little to our story today. It's a living breathing reality that each day gets added to through the work the Katoomba Conference members carry out in our community.
Would you like to join us as Conferas and help carry on the 90 year and 190 year tradition in response to Christ's call "to feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, clothe the naked?"
Russell F Smith, St V.de Paul, Society, Katoomba.

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TR BROWNJOHN MEMORIAL HOME
...it's time we had a talk
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